

PART III: REGULATIONS FOR ISSUANCE AND RENEWAL OF ALTERNATIVE LICENSE E

Alternative Tennessee Licensure for Persons Not Completing College Programs

Conditions for Issuance of the Alternative License E

- (1) The applicant must have been granted at least a Bachelor's Degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education. Certain endorsements such as School Administrator, School Counselor, School Psychologist, Speech/Language Pathologist and Library Information Specialist may not be issued without a Master's degree.
- (2) The applicant must meet the content knowledge requirements for the desired area(s) of endorsement by one of the following:
 - (a) completion of a degree with an academic major in the desired area(s) of endorsement, **OR**
 - (b) obtaining written verification from the college certification officer at an approved institution of higher education that the subject area knowledge and skills for the desired area(s) of endorsement have been met. *(Although the individual is not required to actually be admitted to a teacher preparation program, a statement from the college certification officer that the individual has satisfied the requirements to be admitted to the teacher preparation program must be included.)* **JOR**
 - (c) successful completion of the required Praxis Exams Specialty Test(s) for the desired area(s) of endorsement.
- (3) A superintendent of schools in a Tennessee school system must state his/her intent to employ the applicant and must provide a mentor teacher for the applicant during the first two years of teaching. The applicant's teaching assignment must match the endorsement area(s) that appears on the license.
- (4) Applicants are eligible for an Alternative E License in all endorsement areas except Middle Grades Education and Elementary Education. Applicants who hold a full academic teacher license such as Apprentice, Out-of-State, Professional or Non-Public School Teacher Licenses are not eligible for an Alternative E License with a teaching endorsement.
- (5) Duration - The following August 31.

Requirements for Renewal of the Alternative License E

- (1) An Alternative E License may be renewed two times provided that a superintendent of schools in a Tennessee school system states his/her intent to employ the applicant each year. An individual may not be issued an Alternative License E more than three times (This includes initial issuance plus a limit of two renewals.)
- (2) Before the first renewal, the individual must be enrolled in an approved higher education institution and obtain a list, signed by the college certification officer, outlining the professional education courses, not to exceed 24 semester hours, required for completion of the professional education component of an approved teacher education program. **This list must be attached to the Alternative E License renewal application.** *(Although the individual is not required to actually be admitted to a teacher preparation program, a statement from the college certification officer that the individual has satisfied the requirements to be admitted to the teacher preparation program must be included.)*
- (3) The applicant must earn at least 6 semester hours of credit from this list of professional education coursework for each renewal until all required courses have been completed. Coursework must have been earned after the Alternative E License was last issued or renewed in order for it to be applicable for renewal. An official transcript reflecting the 6 semester hours earned for renewal must accompany the Application for Renewal of Alternative E License, along with the list obtained from the college certification officer outlining the professional education coursework needed for full licensure.

PART IV REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVANCING TO APPRENTICE (FULL) LICENSE

- (1) Upon completion of all licensure requirements, the applicant may apply directly to the Office of Teacher Licensing for an Apprentice (full) Teacher License. All applicants advancing from the Alternative E License to full licensure must submit the following:
 - (a) Documentation signed by the college certification officer verifying completion of the professional education component of an approved teacher education program **AND**
 - (b) Passing scores on all appropriate Praxis Exams, including the PLT and all required specialty tests **AND**
 - (c) Verification of two years successful teaching experience on the Alternative E License with a positive recommendation from the local school system **AND**
 - (d) Official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended. All transcripts that have not previously been submitted to the Office of Teacher Licensing must be included.

NOTE: *The applicant will be licensed through state minimum requirements and will not be considered a college/university teacher education program completer.*